

# MEMO

**TO:** Energy and Environment Committee (EEC)  
**FROM:** Molly Hoffman, Senior Regional Planner, Aviation and Environmental Planning, 213-236-1804, hoffman@scag.ca.gov  
**DATE:** June 5, 2003  
**SUBJECT:** SCAG's Regional Transportation Strategy and Transportation Control Measures in the 2003 AQMP/SIP

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## Recommended Action:

Receive and File

## Summary:

SCAG is responsible for producing the *Regional Transportation Strategy and Transportation Control Measures (TCMs)* portion of the 2003 South Coast Air Quality Management Plan/State Implementation Plan (AQMP/SIP), Appendix IVC. Since the release of the Draft Appendix IVC in February 2003, SCAG has received comments from the federal, state and local air quality and transportation planning agencies on the strategy. All agencies have agreed with SCAG's revised approach (described in detail below) - which is to identify the TCMs in the AQMP/SIP as the TCM projects in the first two years of the Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP) and use substitution language to replace the TCMs in the AQMP/SIP each time the RTIP rolls over. This would preclude the need for a revision to the SIP.

The entire TCM package is scheduled for submittal to the District by the end of May 2003. District Board adoption of the Final Draft AQMP is scheduled for August 2003.

## Background:

Consistent with past practices and in response to the inter-Agency consultation process, the *Regional Transportation Strategy and Transportation Control Measures* portion of the 2003 Air Quality Management Plan/State Implementation Plan (AQMP/SIP) consists of the following four related elements.

- Emission Reduction Demonstration – Total regional emission reductions for the South Coast Air Basin (Basin) will be demonstrated based on the 2001 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP). In addition, emission reductions will be quantified separately for TCM projects based on the most recent Regional Transportation Improvement Program (RTIP). Emissions will be quantified for TCM projects in the most recent RTIP. The emission reductions from the TCMs make up a subset of the total emission reductions from the RTP.

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- TCM Project Identification — The TCMs will be identified as the TCM projects in the first two years of the most recent RTIP. In the event of a conformity lapse, only Federally-funded TCM and exempt projects, in the first two years (fiscally constrained portion) of the most recent (currently 2002) RTIP, will be allowed to proceed. Projects exclusively funded by local funds would not be affected by a conformity lapse.

Formal substitution language will be added to the TCM Appendix IVC and hence the State Implementation Plan, to allow for TCM revisions and replacements without a SIP revision. The substitution language will allow for both the substitutions of individual TCMs as well as the replacement of TCMs in the case of the RTIP rollover. Every time the RTIP is updated, the designated list of TCM projects in the AQMP/SIP will be replaced by a list of new and continuing TCM projects.

- Timely Implementation – The formal timely implementation process by which the RTIP assures implementation of the RTP will be used as a compliance and reporting mechanism for TCM implementation tracking. Once a TCM project is listed in an RTIP, the implementation status must be reported on in subsequent RTIPs until the project has been completed. The purpose of this reporting is to track the timely implementation of TCMs, and to demonstrate that any project for which emission reduction credits were claimed has either been implemented or is being implemented. A timely implementation report is generated each time a conformity determination is made.

The long-term planning requirements for emission reductions from on-road mobile sources are met by the RTP process, while the short-term implementation requirements are met by the RTIP process.

- Reasonably Available Control Measure (RACM) Analysis – The Clean Air Act (CAA) requires that a RACM analysis will be included as part of the overall TCM strategy in the SIP. The analysis ensures that all potential TCMs that exist are evaluated for implementation and that justification is provided for those measures that are not implementable. In accordance with EPA procedures, this analysis will evaluate TCM measures that are suggested during public comments, relevant measures adopted in other nonattainment areas of the country, and measures identified by EPA.